

AMENDMENTS to the DRAWINGS

No amendments or changes to the Drawings are proposed.

REMARKS

Notice of Allowance

We appreciate the Notice of Allowance, and are filing this Request for Continued Examination as explained in the following paragraphs.

Nature of the Amendment

The present amendment clarifies the claims and voluntarily brings them into compliance with recent case law regarding statutory patentable matter. The present amendment also updates the ABSTRACT to reflect the scope of the allowed claims. No new matter is added, and no patentable distinctions are removed or modified in the claims.

For these reasons, we respectfully request entry of the amendment and allowance of the claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

This application is related either formally or through common inventorship and/or similar subject matter to the following U.S. copending patent applications:

- (a) Application Serial Number 09/726,009, filed on 11/29/2000, our docket number AUS9-2000-0738-US1, currently under Appeal from the Examiner;
- (b) Application Serial Number 09/773,197, filed on 01/31/2001, our docket number AUS920000945US1, currently under active examination;
- (c) Application Serial Number 09/801,613, filed on 03/08/2001, our docket number AUS920010024US1, now issued as US Patent 7,475,025;
- (d) Application Serial Number 09/821,106, filed on 03/29/2001, our docket number AUS920010174US1, currently under allowance;
- (e) Application Serial Number 09/801,604, filed on 03/08/2001, our docket number AUS920010029US1, now abandoned; and
- (f) Application Serial Number 12/243410, filed on 10/01/2008, our docket number AUS920010024US2, a continuation of 09/801,613, currently awaiting a first Office Action on the merits.

We are submitting cited art and prosecution papers from these associated patent applications via an Information Disclosure Statement for the Examiner's consideration.

Request for Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

We believe the present amendment retains the claims in condition for allowance, and we believe that the claims remain patentable over the art of record.

If, for any reason, it is believed that the claims are not in a condition for allowance, we respectfully request constructive recommendations per MPEP 707.07(j) II which would place the claims in condition for allowance without need for further proceedings. We will respond promptly to any Examiner-initiated interviews or to consider any proposed examiner amendments.

Respectfully,

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